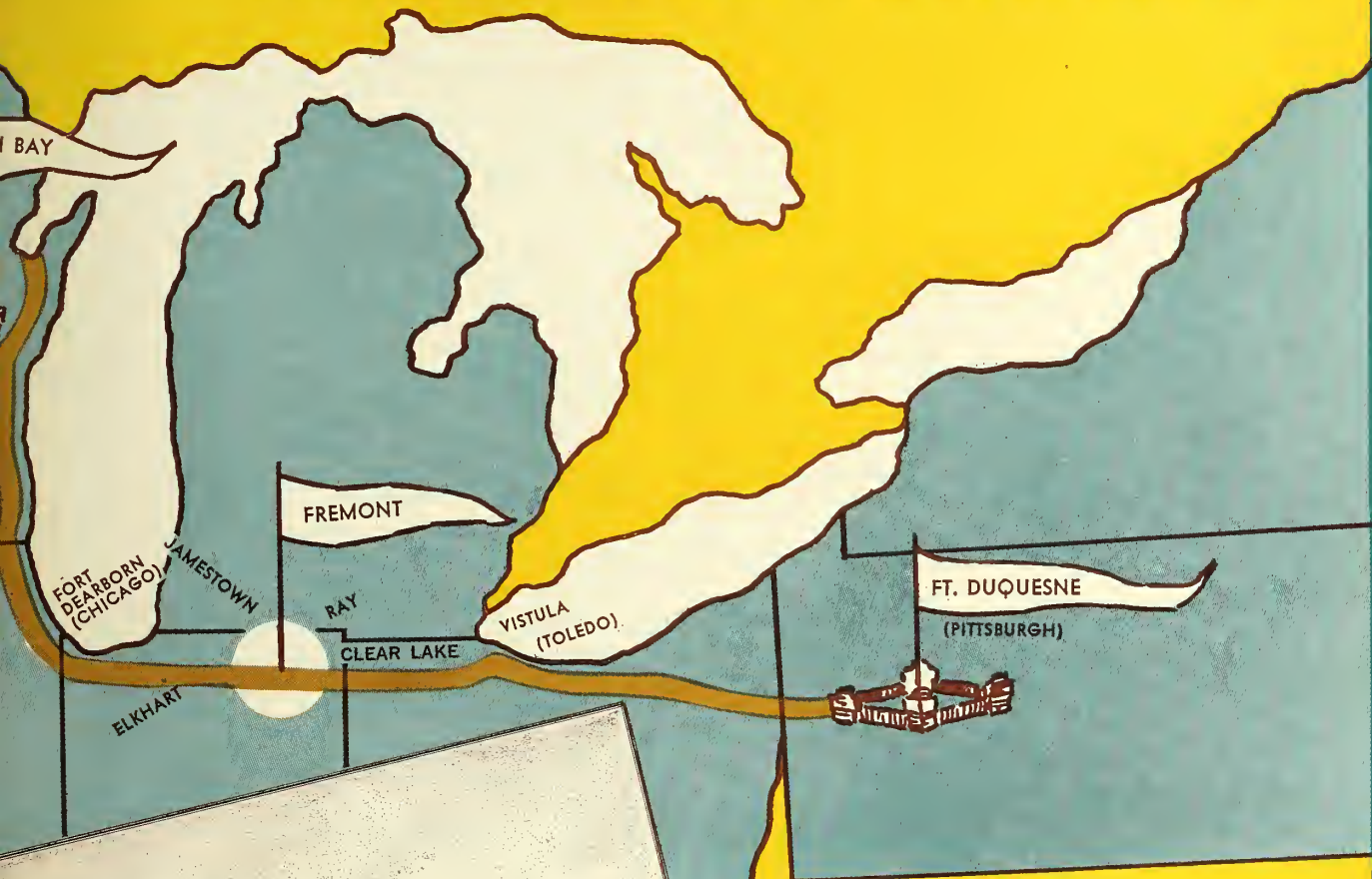


FREMONT

AREA CENTENNIAL



A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL
FACTS CONCERNING THIS
IMPORTANT OUTPOST ON
EARLY AMERICA'S
VISTULA ROAD !!!



EXCHANGE MILLS,
FREMONT, 1880



FREMONT - 1880

1
8
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1
9
6
7



MAIN OFFICE
FREMONT BANK
Fremont, Indiana
PHONE 495-2545



BRANCH OFFICE
ORLAND BANK
Orland, Indiana
PHONE 829-2415

The First National Bank Of Fremont, Indiana

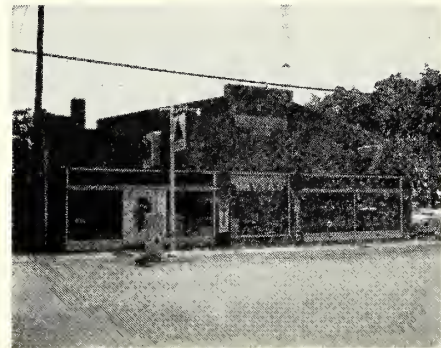
**BUILDING AND GROWING
WITH THE TRI-STATE AREA
— — SINCE 1915 — —**



"The Oldest National Bank In Steuben County"



McNaughton's
THE FREMONT HARDWARE
Phone 495-2715



McNaughton's
I.H.C. & New Idea Implements
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— Established 1902 —

F. B. McNAUGHTON - OLDS & I. H. C. TRUCKS

— 1927 —

PHONE 495-3915

1867

1967

PROGRAM

— And —

HISTORY



A Souvenir Of The

FREMONT AREA CENTENNIAL



Friday, July 28, 1967

Through

Saturday, August 5, 1967

— At —

FREMONT, INDIANA

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To The Citizens Of The Fremont Area

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the area who helped make the Centennial a success. Special thanks to the people who served on committees and devoted so much time and effort to the celebration.

In the program, we have tried to have something for everyone, and it is my sincere wish that a good time is had by all. I also hope a medical building can be started through the financial success of the centennial, and many more worthwhile projects can be done in the future, with the same enthusiam you have had for this celebration.

Thank you again.

Roger Barry

FREMONT ARE A CENTENNIAL

HONORARY CHAIRMAN	E. B. McNaughton
ACTIVE CHAIRMAN	Roger Barry
ASSISTANT CHAIRMAN	Ned Snyder
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Senator Willis Batchelet Eloise Finicle, Art Somers Richard Bingaman and Robert Vaughn
TREASURER	Jim Myers
SECRETARIES	Mayo Sanders Thelma Mitchell
BUDGET CHAIRMAN	Wayne Sidel
STOCK	Esther Ferguson, Chm.
LADIES' PARTICIPATION	Gladys Sidel, Chm.
MENS' PARTICIPATION	LaVon Bressler, Chm.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ----- E. B. McNaughton, Honorary Chairman
Roger Barry, General Chairman

PUBLICITY Phil Gay, Chairman
Lois Greenamyre

HISTORICAL Jean Gary, Co-chairman
Ruth Hadley, Co-chairman

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	Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kinsey
	Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bailey
	Mr. and Mrs. Earl Schaeffer
	Josephine Snyder, Tonna Hagerty

NOVELTIES Ralph Hadley, Bud Hanks

HISTORICAL WINDOWS Harold Clark, Roy Crandall

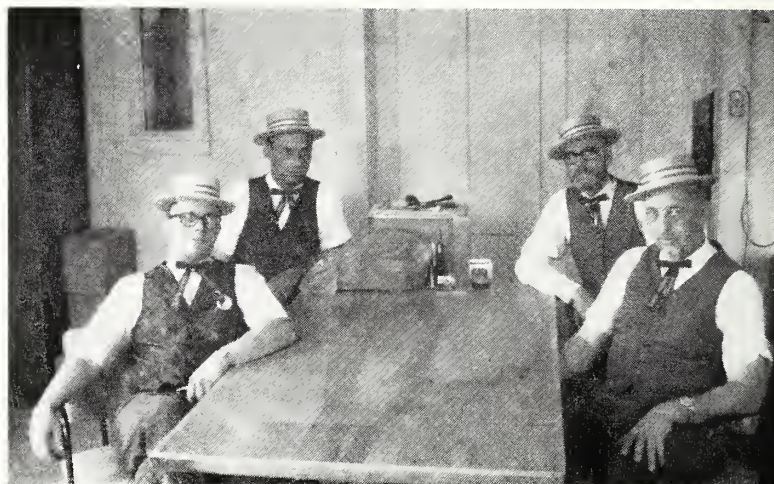
SHAVING PERMITS _____ Earl Ford McNaughton, Myron Clark

PRODUCTION ----- Ronnie Vaughn, Co-chairman
Dave Osborne, Co-chairman

STOCK ----- Esther Ferguson, Chairman
Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Fogarty
Betty Clark, Gladys Sidel
Don Rhodes, Leila Hutchins
Mildred Bressler, Phil Gay
Ned Snyder, Art Middleton
Neva Glassley, Ruth Stroh
Betty Gary, Virginia Michael
Janice Crawford, Rosie King
Donna Cowsert, Ann Swift

CHAIRMEN AND COMMITTEES

OLD FASHION DAY	Mr. and Mrs. William Hutchins, Co-chairmen Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mingus, Co-chairmen Mr. and Mrs. William Eatinger Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cleckner Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sowles Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sherburne Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hancock
YOUTH DAY	Max Mitchell, Chairman James McKibben, Charles Anthrup Tom Spidel, Dean Hantz Bill Swager, Bob Knisely Peggy Foust, June Crandall Patty Champion, Judy Regadanz
LADIES DAY	Joan Penner, Co-Chairman Lorelee Gay, Co-chairman Joyce Roderick, Jane Snyder Sylvia Huss, Vera Smith Harriet Mims, Norita Latham Lucille Keyes, Evelyn Smith Arma Lou Sherburne, Leila Hutchins
AGRICULTURE, LABOR and INDUSTRY	Phil Michael, Co-chairman Don Robinson, Co-chairman Alan Boots, Clellie Smart Harold Sellers, Clarence Huss LeRoy Huss, Bob Baker Howard Pierce, Duane Wall Gerald Evans, Bob Burch John Dove, Harold Wise Jerry Somers
RELIGIOUS HERITAGE DAY	Wendell Schaeffer, Co-chairman Richard Baker, Co-chairman Art Middleton, Don Ireland Mrs. Paul Dygert, Margaret Hardy Mrs. Tom Hook, Mrs. Merle Loucks Mrs. Vic Bretz, Rev. Donald Kunkle
OLD TIMERS BASEBALL GAME	Howard Beams, Dale Gary, Wayne Sidel
FIREWORKS	Robert Vaughn, Dean Salisbury
MERCHANTS' ACTIVITIES	Charles Bressler, Gar Lewis, Wade Foster
PARADE	Jerry Beams, Co-chairman Ned Snyder, Co-chairman Diane Walston, Margaret Dickenson Ford McNaughton, Myron Clark James McKibben, Gene Norton Dr. Louis Doiron
ADVERTISING COMMITTEE	Joan Penner, Vera Smith Sylvia Huss, Geralee Baker



June 10, 1967

Dear Friends,

Every community, in the course of its life, develops a personality, reflecting the essential nature of its inhabitants. A city's physical aspect is a part of its personality.

We are proud of our town as an attractive community in which to live and to work.

We believe our people are friendly, industrious and progressive. We think that our citizens have met the challenges of community life as it exists today, as they have met them through the past 100 years, straight-forward and unafraid.

There are heroic figures in our history from the time that Fremont was a grain center along the Vistula Road to its present position as one of the most enterprising communities in Northern Indiana. As we have grown through the years we have also developed in our spiritual, educational and social interests.

We invite all our friends and visitors to join with us in our Centennial Celebration and to enjoy with us the functions which are planned during the summer.

We believe that the observance will be a reminder to us of the many advantages we have here which will make our next century an even greater one than the one now past.

Sincerely yours,

Fremont Town Board of Trustees

Robert L. Vaughn, President

Max Rathbun

Ned Snyder

Everett Ferguson, Clerk-Treasurer

In Appreciation

May we add our congratulations to the Fremont Area, which has grown and prospered through more than 100 years. Fremont stands as a living tribute to the men and women who came before us and who worked to build it. It also provides a challenge to us today to make it an even better community—that our children and their children may point to her with pride 100 years from now.

We wish to acknowledge a vast debt of gratitude to all of those people who in any way have aided in our search for material. It is impossible to list all of their names, but to Lois Greenamyre and Lee Duguid we want to give special thanks. Had it not been for their knowledge and of source material and their high regard for tradition on which our town rests, this booklet could not have been compiled.

The editors of this centennial Edition regret any omissions or errors which may be in evidence. We request that any corrections be brought to the attention of the Editors of the Bi-Centennial Edition in 2067. Surely those editors will correct the errors in that edition.

Ruthe Hadley

Jean Gary

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Russell Abbott
Una Barry
Mildred Barry
Leila Hutchins
Christine Moreland
Dorothy Fackler
Mary McCormack
Lena Mae McNaughton
Helen Skelton
Gene Norton
Bertha Cobb Parker
Mrs. Glen R. Woods
Paul Michael
Art Somers
Gar Lewis
Wayne Sidel



Once a Familiar Sight in the Fremont Area, the Log Cabin Is Now a Thing of the Past.

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

During the past century, there have been many changes. Clothing styles have changed, methods of transportation have changed from the horse and the railroad to the auto and the airplane. Methods of living are different now with modern conveniences taking the place of the crude, rugged life the early settlers experienced.

In keeping with the times, Fremont has changed and progressed, too, through the past century.

This Centennial commemorates those early settlers who fought disease, hunger and hardships to develop this area. It is dedicated to all who have contributed to the growth and prosperity of this area. It opens the doors to a new century that holds opportunities unlimited.

PROGRAM

FREMONT AREA CENTENNIAL

JULY 28 -- AUGUST 5, 1967

FRIDAY, JULY 28 AND SAT., JULY 29

Sidewalk Sale

Womanless Wedding

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Religious Heritage Day

Interdenominational Service 1867 Style

Old Timers Ball Game (8 P.M.)

New Athletic Field

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

Old Fashion Day

7:30 Merchant's Auction

9:00 Square Dancing

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

Youth Day

MORNING: Pet Parade

AFTERNOON: Games at Park

6:00 P.M. Pony Pulling

EVENING: Teen Dance

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Ladies Day

AFTERNOON: 1:30—Centennial Belle
Contest

3:00—Dress Parade

EVENING: Variety Show

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Agriculture, Labor and Industry Day

AFTERNOON: Greased pig and similar...
contests for all ages

EVENING: Garden Tractor Pull

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

General Hershey Day

AFTERNOON: (1:30) Parade, Beard and
Dress Judging, Raffles

EVENING: American Legion Barbecue
Fireworks

ALSO PLANNED:
Kangaroo Court



WINTER SCENE OF FREMONT
AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

Throughout the years Fremont has served the people of this area with their daily needs, Winter and Summer.

Fremont Area Centennial Belles

To Gladys Sidel must go the credit for the organization and promotion of the Fremont Area Centennial Belles. It was she who sparked every local and surrounding club to enter a Belle Group and to join in the fun. As a result, 21 groups and 365 members all bought identification pins, pledged to wear Centennial gowns on prescribed days and to promote all the goals of the Centennial Committee.

With great courage they accepted a challenge

to a tug of war with Brothers of the Brush and some say they won. They selected by a lottery one Brother to be shaved in public and with great ceremony they did! They have sponsored cookie sales, used clothing drives and other activities too numerous to mention in this limited space.

To the Centennial Belles must go a big share of the credit for a successful Fremont Area Centennial Celebration.

MINERVA-MINI BELLES

Mary McCormack
Lucille Beams
Blanche Gary
Laura Marshall
Lola Moeller
Joyce Reed
Vesta Mae Sellers
Josephine Snyder
Dorothy Stroh
Marilyn Wells
Vera Albright
June Herber
Rolene Kaufman
Sue Gary

SOROSIS BELLES

Virginia McKibben
Wava Thompson
Harriet Mims
Betty Ann Clark
Dorothea Houser
Georgia Montgomery
Laura States
Juanita Mitchell
Margaret Eckman
Pauline Lower
Dolly Bullock
Una Barry
Ruby Hershey
Pearl Blosser
Teresa Kundard

June Champion
Christine Carter
Betty Phillips

GAY BELLES

Donna Brown
Cleo Northam
Pearl King
Jerry Chapin
Rolene Waters
Rosie Hantz
Beverly Newbauer
Lauralee Gay
Wauneta Smith
Beverly Shaffer
Margery Higbee
Norma Rathbun
Jean Mounts
Martha Lyons
Jean Mounts
Debbie Lyons

TOWN & COUNTRY BELLES

Mary Kinsey
Mildred Meeks
Hazel Brattin
Mildred Foster
Marcella Kaufman
Marjorie Mertz
Gladys Sidel
Lucille Keyes
Madelene Mundy
Dorothy Clay
Kathleen Stroh
Mildred Barry
Margaret Vaughn
Mabel Michael
Marjorie Clark
Della Patterson
Florence Vaughn
Althea Knauss
Margaret Dickinson
Diane Walston
Hazel Farrington
Uvah Foster
Joan Hawkins
Joan Jolly
Maxine Young
Florence Bingaman

BUSY BELLES

Carolyn McBride
Ilah Champion
LuReign Arnold
Betty Foster
Anna Jean Foulk
Peggy Bressler
Barbara Bressler
Sue Davis
Hilda Chapin
Mildred Shutts
Helen Hodge
Audrey Hutchins
Janet McKinley
Diane Robertson
Mildred Bressler
Leila Hutchins
Burdana Day
Janette Sherburne
Clara Pierce
Beverly Frederick
Arlene Hufnagle
Ruth Sowle
Marie Volkmer
Georgene Doty

GAY NIGHTIES

Mary Jo Gard
Margaret Myers
Jeanette Rathbun
Wanda Norton
Cheryl Pocock
Linda Barry
Bonnie Phillips
Carol Reese
Bernice Hufnagle
Marilyn Champion
Jackie Crawford
Katie Crawford
Nianne Gay
Sandy Gould
Linda Thomas
Marlene Wilkinson
Ann Mounts

Centennial Belles (Continued)

MERRY BELLES

Marlene Meeks
Rosalie Dominguez
Joyce Roderick
Shirley Schlabach
Evelyn Smith (Art)
Anna Barry
Shirley Guske
Mariannette Harter
Marsha Higbee
Gretchen Baker
Gwen Baker
Pat Kimmerling
Phyllis Strang
Loretta Smart
Evelyn Sevits

SCHOOL BELLES

Thelma Mitchell
Pam Johnson McNaughton
Caroline Sanders
Edith Pocock
Ruth Pifer
Beulah Sommers
Madalynne Gary
Gwen Cotner
Sue Sanders
June Crandall
Carolee Ambrose
Patty Champion
Margaret Smith
Marie Schmiede
Roseanne Lindsay
Linda Roach
Marlene Goodwin

STITCH & CHATTER BELLES

Ruthie Wise
Betty Cox
Donna Moffett
Lorna Knisely
Phyllis Hufnagle
Nina Fulton
Liz Fisher
Anita Dryer
Arden Ferguson
Jean Lauer
JoAnn Bingaman
Sally Mingus
Madge Foster

SUGAR BELLES

Gloria Berlein
Nellie Shoff
Shirley Sutton
Geraldine Sevits
Irene Hufnagle
Betty Clark
Mildred Lomont
Opal Huss
Juanita Shaffer
Pauline Thompson
Fran Carpenter
Nancy Burch
Charlotte Sherburne
Sylvia Fraley
Velma Ann Straw
Marian Ringler

STAR BELLES

Mildred Sherburne
Becky Vaughn
Nettie Harding
Shirley Kelley
Mildred Champion
Marilyn Wells
Beatrice Miller
Maggie Crawford
Betti Schaff
Doris Barry
Kay Spidel
Nellie Kauffman
Luella Vaughn
Loretta Smart
Noreta Lahrman
Wilma Jackson
Lucille Lantz
Lillian Harding
Judy Brown

E.B.'s BUSY BEES

Virginia Michael
Janice Crawford
Betty Gary
RoseMary King
ArmaLou Sherburne
Esther Ferguson
Joan Myers
Neva Glassley
Ruth Stroh
Donna Cowser
Edna Fisher
Rena Paul
Anne Swift
Kathy Michael

THE CANTERBURY BELLES No. I

Donna Albright
Jane Snyder
Jean Huss
Vera Smith
Nancy Stafford
Judy Miller
Molly Dove
Audrey McCarthy
Muriel Penner
Sylvia Huss
Marie Noyes
Ruth Huss
Judy Sullins
Sandy Rose
Glenna Beams
Carol Snyder

THE CANTERBURY BELLES No. II

Georgia Montgomery
Helen Skelton
Sharon Huss
Alta Burrell
Geralee Baker
Nancy Noyes
Joann Penner
Goldie Smith
Willa Durnell
Ann Baird
Sharon Thatcher
Lois Schaeffer
Virginia Watts

SISTERS OF THE SKILLET

Mary Gardner
Virginia Fisher
Sybil Palmerton
Luella Wells
Helen Northam
Wilma Burch
Lottie Burch
Janet Hanks
Sue Schorey
Katie Loney
Pat Michael
Belva Noragon
Ila Sickels
Berdine Wilkinson
Virginia Kibinger
Peggy Folkner
Mrs. Ralph Hancock
Patty Hancock
Ida Hancock
Nancy Hancock
Mary Ellen Osborne
Norma Noragon

Centennial Belles (Continued)

DINNER BELLES No. I

Iylene Swift
 Laura Parker
 Judy Way
 Joyce Barron
 Bonnie Thomas
 Kathy Etheridge
 Jan Stevens
 Evelyn Hufnagle
 Berneice Hufnagle
 Verl Ireland
 Priscilla Green
 Pat Lee
 Violet Curtland
 Ruby Hall
 Jean McClanahan

DINNER BELLES No. II

Barbara Tatio
 Kathy Heide
 Joyce Roe
 Connie Champion
 Nancy Bird
 Carolyn Parker
 Myrtle Gleason
 Lois Petre
 Mary L. Gleason
 Janet Miller
 Sharon Gleason
 Janice Creager
 Marion Musselman
 Bonnie Morgan

JIMBELLES No. I

Pat Straw
 Iva Jackson
 Evelyn Sickels
 Nina Kennedy
 Virgil Straw
 Judy Regadanz
 Mary Fenning
 Shirley Siener
 Jeanie Herman
 June Shook
 Eloise Finicle
 Roberta Baker
 Shirley Hoyer
 Connie Ross
 Anna Belle Campbell
 Evelyn Smith
 Carolyn Smith
 Mrs. Lewis Parker
 Mrs. Edwin Collins
 Melanie Jacks
 Kathie Straw
 Debbie Siener
 Lennah Johnson
 Pat Master

JIMBELLES No. II

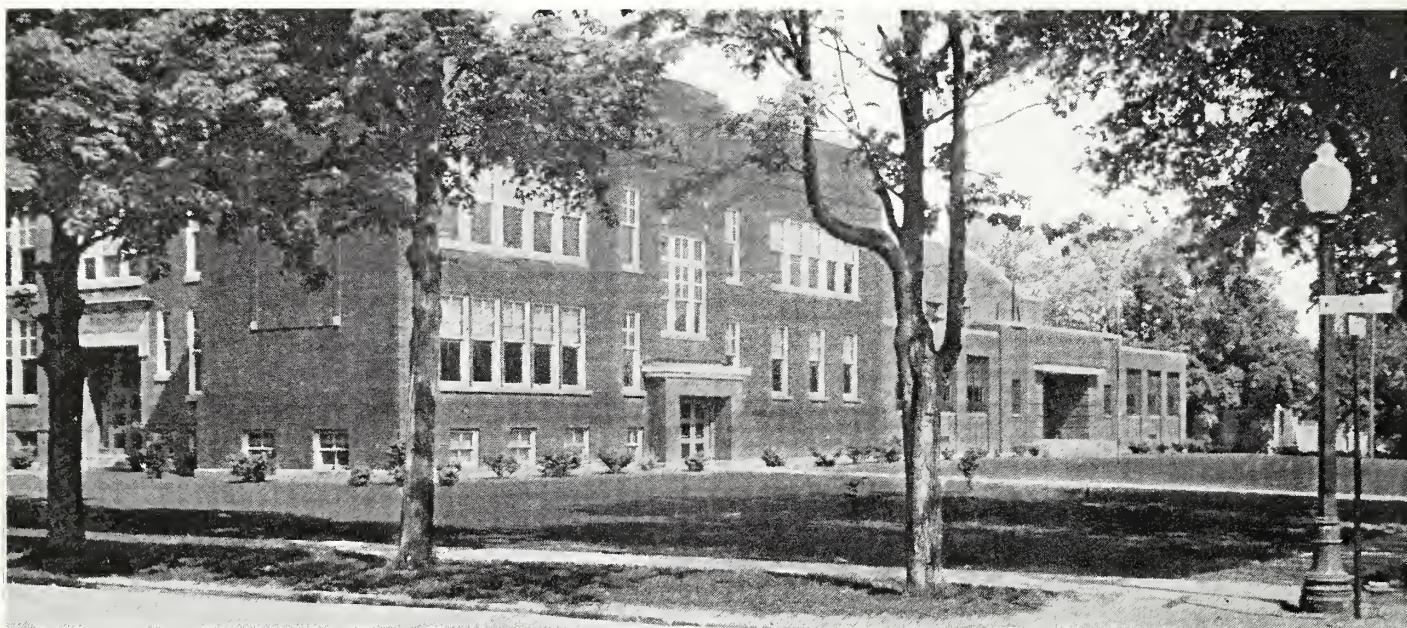
Edith Bruce
 Cathy White
 Jane Rodacap
 Lora Dougherty
 Ruth Gumper
 Marie Myers
 Jean Mitchell
 Marilyn Lazenby
 Lola Mae Smith
 Gladys Sommers
 Bonnie Pierce
 Waneta Fisher
 Mrs. W. E. Morton
 Mrs. Paul Gillespie
 Donna Phillips
 Mary Bock
 Mirian Seigel
 Vi Adams
 Helen Coler
 Jan Hanchar
 Mildred Sprague

REVOLUTIONARY BELLES

Pauline Batchelet
 Ruthe Hadley
 Helen Swift
 Ina Hubbell
 Louise Phillips
 Jean Gary
 Dorothea Houser
 Lena Mae McNaughton
 Waunetta Lowther
 Barbara Crankshaw
 Anne Willis
 Margaret Romero
 Marge Hart
 Pauline King
 Zola Stomm

TINKER BELLES

Jackie Foster
 Shelly Palmerton
 Kathy McCormack
 Ellen Northam
 Linda Crawford
 Lindy Barlow
 Terrie Sutton
 Debbie Sutton
 Becky Sutton
 Angela Crawford
 Barbbra Hantz
 Cindy Brown
 Karma Noragon
 Lita Lauer
 Susie Vaughn
 Shelly Birchfield
 Connie Mingus
 Linda McKinley
 Barbara McKinley
 Debbie Vaughn
 Jan Michael
 Vicky Snyder



Fremont High School and Gymnasium-Auditorium

FREMONT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS



New Fremont Elementary Schools

No. of students	
kindergarten	64
elementary	396
high school	344
total	804
Superintendent	1
Principals	2
Clerical	4
Guidance	1
Librarians	2
Teachers	
elementary	18
high school	18
Bus drivers	10
Janitors	5
School board members	7
Cooks	4

BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH

Under the able direction of La Von Bressler, The Brothers of the Brush kept the wheels of the Fremont Area Centennial in almost constant motion throughout the entire summer. There were 17 active groups organized with a total membership of 235.

The big kick-off came with the ritual of the Burying of the Razor on May 5. It was complete with School Band and weeping Belles and Brothers. Falling rain only served to make the scene more impressive.

Brothers of the Brush Membership Roll as of June 5
Von Bressler, Chairman

THE CAVEMEN

Team captain, Roger Miller
Jerry Barron
Jim Jenkins
Richard Duane Wall
Larry Neubauer
Bud Jackson
Rolland Aukwright
Ed Rakestraw
Raymond Sutton
John L. Gould
Larry Alleshouse
Max Rinyt

THE STRAIGHT RAZORS

Team Captain, Jerry Sommers
William Glasper
Tom Fisher
John Hepburn
Jim Parker
Glenn Wells
Harley Gibson
John Dove
John McBride
Glen Strang
Whitey Nichols
Hans Miller
Richard Devine
Orain Gary
Laurence Rowe
Bernard Connin
Bert Gratz
Junior Paul
Bill Lenhart
Gerald Way
Bob Brown
LaVerne Hammond
John Landis
Joe Greenwalt
Ed Crawford

Henry Lay
Doyle Ross
Raymond Northam
Lewis Parker
Harris Smith
Roy McClanahan
Kendall Burch

THE BILLY GOATEES

Team captain, Bill Foster
Wendall Cooper
C. O. Huss
Ralph Fouck
Dean Salsbury
Cliff Baird
Fred Jolly
Elsworth Higbee
Dale Noragon
Jim Gary
Pat Pierce

THE HANDLEBARS

Team captain, Neal Fisher
Roy Crandall
Don Palmerton
Joe Barron
Bill Lee
Russell Slutts, Jr
Bob Gould
Bud Stroh
Ted McClanahan
Harry E. Schaeffer
Clarence Powell
Additional team captains:
Richard Petre
Ned Sullen
Leon Creager

The men of the community found it advisable not to enter Fremont on Friday nights without their Centennial hats, ties, buttons, Beards and moustaches. Failure to do so might result in them being brought into Kangaroo Court for discipline.

Surely everyone will agree that the Fremont Centennial area could not have been so successful without them!

THE BAR-BER SHOPPERS

Team captain, Dean Parsons
Charles Leonhardt
William Bryan
Louy Abersa
Bill Cope
Paul Thomas
Charles Welier
Bud Smith
Evan Thomas
Bud Michael
Robert Cleckner
Carey Sattison
Tom Champion
Walt Parsons
Estel Parsons
Rufus Patton
Emmet Woodward
Joe Nephew
Max Greenamayer
Joe Knauss
Harry Cutcher
James Prince
Ralph Parsons
Sherman Ransbottom
Roger Foutz
Carl Gangway
Dee Way
Dr. Lynn Reed
Allen Boots
Phillip Percy
Chet Foulck
Roger Cobb
D. V. P. Miller
Gordon Potts

THE CUT-UPS

Team captain, J. O. Brown
Art Middleton
Glen Foster
Roy Foster
Max Mitchell
Bob Wilson
Marty Mitchell

BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH (continued)

THE PLOWMEN

Team captain, Ted Blotter
Jack Weber
Art Baker
Paul Nedele
Robert Hiller
Dutch Baber
Andy Payne
Glen Shaw
Neil Smith
Lloyd Henion
Leo Coyne
Trees C. Jackson
Joe Klein
Carl Schaeffer
Donald Tibbs
John Prell
Thomas Hook
Max Sutton
John McAulay

THE GAY BLADES

Team captain, Phil Gay
Robert Gleason
Pat Alwood
Eddie Adams
Max Rathbun
James Laughlin
Bill Swager
Larry Neubauer
Chuck Swager
Terry Swager
Harold Mounts
Ralph Hawkins
Bill Waters
Sam Huss
Dick White

THE MISCHIEF MAKERS

Team captain, Larry Penner
Mr. Letts
Michael Green
Lee Kinsey
DeVon Chapin
Thomas A. Parrish
Carl Davis
Rollo Gary
Russell Abbott
Team Captain, Cap Straw
Bob Adams
Don Meeks
Tom Meyers

THE FREMONT FUZZ

Team captain, Lewis Hufnagle
Don Robinson
Jim Moffett
Bill Hornbrook
Tom Goodwin
Jim Hufnagle
Russell Bird
Paul Tatro
Gary Lewis

THE LITTLE SHAVERS

Jerry Morgan
Mike McCarty
Team captain, Roger Hutchins
Buster Thompson
Alondo Thatche
Art Crooks
Sammy Kaiser
Jerry Crawford
Ralph Hancock
Leland Morrison
Jim Lance
Tom Hagerty
Ken Schorey

THE GARTER SNAPPERS

Team captain, Arky Vaughn
Howard Vaughn
Bruce Foster
Ralph Hadley
Dean Hantz
Bob Knisley
Jerry Beams
Gar Lewis
Walter Forbes
Virgil Smith
Bob Gary

THE SOUP STRAINERS

Team captain, Orville Gleason
Dennis Higbee
Bob Burch
Milt Grandin
R. C. Birgaman
E. C. Bingaman
James Gleason
Dennis Fulton
Bennie Gleason

THE OLD SALTS

Team captain, Ned Snyder
Roger Barry
Wayne Sidel
Jim Myers
Jeff Gay
Carl Gardner
Duane Firestone
Don Becher
Willard Boore
Jerry Worthington
Floyd Hufnagle
Wayne Hilton
Larry Penner
Corus Nichols
George Snyder
Charles Miller

THE FULLER BRUSH MEN

Team captain, Roscoe Blotter
Phil Parker
Tom Parker
Paul Whittecar
Robert Bristle
Ralph Ansley
Raymond E. Ottersen
Clyde Sattison
Donald Sattison
Harley Sattison
Joe Shively

THE COOKIE-DUSTERS

Team captain, Art Sommers
Charles Bressler
Le'ty Bressler
John F. Bromagen
Kenny Smith
Harold Parker
Wade Foster
Everitt Ferguson
Wayne Durnell
Al Shaffer
Bill Hutchins

BERNARD'S BRUSHY BROTHERS

Team captain, Bernard Rose
Chuck Charles
Leon Huss
John Gary
Larry Higbee
Merl Meyers
Mel Gard
Russell Shutts
LaMar Emerick



HISTORY OF FREMONT

Come with me in fancy, to the year 1835, in January, when the plat was filed for the Village of Brockville. This was the second plat to be filed in the county and had previously been known as Willow Prairie. I think we can safely assume that it took its name from the abundance of willow trees the settlers found growing here.

But in the year 1851 the name of the Village of Brockville was again changed, this time to Fremont. Some sixteen years later it was so incorporated. The reason for the change was that it was discovered that there was another community in Franklin County which had already chosen the name of Brockville. The pioneer settler, Jeremiah Tillotson who so much respected John C. Fremont, The Pathfinder, christened the Post Office and town in his honor.

John McMahon and Jeremiah Tillotson were only hours apart in their arrival at this spot. Ironically now there is reported to be only one Brockville in the world and that is in Ontario Province, Canada.

How does a town start? True facts are scarce and legends abound. Records are few and dim but there are some that tell us the first land entry was made on June 23, 1834 three tracts in fact, of 80 acres each, on which the south part of town is now located. G. D. Palmenter, S. A. Palmenter and John Cune entered them.

The first frame building was erected in 1836 or 1837 near the center of the village by a man named Goodwin. At about the same time a man

came from Fort Wayne built a log building which was used as a store. Its location was where the present drug store and bank stand. This man, Mr. Parker was very likely the first merchant, known as a "thundering good fellow" possibly due to the fact that he extended credit. His stock of merchandise was limited. Legend has it that his entire stock and worldly possessions were easily loaded into a one horse wagon.

To this first building was added a frame building which was turned into a hotel. For several years Truman Gilbert served as its first landlord and was called "MINE HOST" in those days. (German Influence?)

In 1839, Mr. R. A. Gaines came from the village of Lima (Howe) LaGrange County and brought another stock of merchandise, scarcely a full wagon load but his profit was so fabulous that he built another store and stocked it with merchandise purchased in New York.

Mr. Gaines also built a building that was used as a hotel and was known for many years as the American House. It appears that the first building erected was either removed or burned as the American House was located on the present site of the drug store and bank.

In 1844 the frame of the First Methodist Church was raised. This building was not completed until 1851. The foundation was put under the building in 1859. It is said that the swine found a cool retreat in the hot summer months under the church until the foundation was completed. In 1872 the building was sold to the Evangelical Association and was moved to the east part of town.

A frame school house was built in Fremont in 1845. This building was afterwards moved to the main street and occupied as a meat



Grocery Wagons About 1900

market. The newer school house was built in 1856. It was 30 by 36 feet in size, two stories high and cost \$1,400. It was destroyed by fire August 16, 1877. This was the same year that the first brick school was erected, which with the ground cost \$6,000. This building was located one block north of the main street where the present one stands.

A. B. Goodwin was the first Postmaster at Brockville. In 1838 a mail route was established from Blissfield, Michigan to Howe (Lima), Indiana. The mail was carried on horseback and passed through Brockville following the Vistula Road. After the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway was completed at Coldwater, Michigan, a tri-weekly mail route was established between Coldwater, Jamestown, Fremont, Angola, Auburn and Fort Wayne. In 1869 a railroad from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Jackson, Michigan and Saginaw was established. This railroad was known as the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad. The depot was supposed to be 80 rods north of its present location. Erastus Farnam, being a man of some wealth agreed to furnish the lumber for the building if it was

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SNYDER'S OF FREMONT

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FREMONT, INDIANA

located at the present site. The railroad company, not having much money at the time, agreed to this offer and the depot was located at the present site. Mr. Farnam owned and operated the grain elevator a brick building near the depot and it was his desire to have the depot near him for shipping convenience. This building is still used as a grain elevator.

Daniel Schaeffer came to Steuben County when he was 19 years old. He was born in Pennsylvania and had been apprenticed at the age of 13 to learn the bakers trade. The agreement had been that he was to serve 6 years to receive his board and clothes and 3 months schooling. At the expiration of his term he was to receive a suit of clothes valued at \$25.00.

In 1855 he came to Fremont and opened the first bakery. Some people living in Fremont today remember the brick oven, covered with earth to retain the heat. This oven and bake shop were located on East Main Street where Viola Gould now lives. Mr. Schaeffer also manufactured candy which he sold in his bakery, later ice cream in the summer. "Candy Dan" was well known to all the children as well as their parents.

Dr. Stewart was the first physician in the township. He had great faith in the curative powers of roots and herbs and "sich". Dr. Griffin was the second doctor and he achieved success by using Quinine for the cure of fever and ague instead of the roots and herbs. Dr. Hendricks was the third to come to Fremont to heal the sick.

Tragedy was not unknown to these settlers. A Jacob Frost, in 1840 shot himself with a rifle. His body was buried near where the depot stands today. This was the first man to be buried in the township. A tombstone was erected over



Auto Day — A Popular Event Held Annually For Many Years

the grave and stood there for many years until broken. Later the railroad bed was laid over his grave.

Probably all people in this area have heard of Silas Doty. His life was so exciting that we will devote more space to him in a special article.

The town of Fremont is growing. Beside wheat and other grains, cattle, sheep and hogs are being shipped from here to Buffalo, N.Y. Saturday was a lively day as it was "shipping day". Later fine horses were sent from here.

The installation of electric lights in 1895 and operation in 1897 made big changes in the community. The light plant was located at the Pifer sawmill at the south end of Mill St. It was owned by the town and later a building to house it was built between the depot and town. Later it was sold to the Northern Indiana Public Service Co.

Parts of a log house are still in existence, although one would not know it from a casual look. The house is at the corner of Pleasant and North Streets.

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STANDARD OIL

Rollo Gary, Dealer

Clair Duncan, Agent

FREMONT, INDIANA

At one time the town boasted of two hotels, six passenger trains and 4 daily freight trains.

Since the autos have taken over the method of travel the railroad service has been discontinued.

Our town has had some artisans too. Fred Pifer was one. Being a wood worker of great skill he is supposed to have been the originator of the double boat. His shop was located one block north of the main street on the west side of the street. His boats were so built that they would not overturn easily and still were light and strong. Later his building was moved to the main street and was used as a restaurant (north side of main east of square.)



One of the Double Boats
Invented and Built by Fred Pifer

The first pavement was laid in 1922 and was a strip of cement 20 feet wide and extended south to the railroad tracks, north of town 3 blocks, west 4 blocks and east to the railroad tracks. This strip of pavement has been widened and was probably one of the greatest improvements.

It would be impossible to relate here all of the interesting memorabilia we have found; that a sawmill was once operated by Mr. Eaton one mile and a quarter west of the depot that it was located on a creek between Eaton Lake and Marsh Lake; that some of its timbers

were discovered when the Indiana Toll Road was built; that Mr. Straw operated a planing mill just south of the present lumber yard; that this mill was run by steam power and the ingenious Mr. Straw managed to manipulate the steam whistle at noon and night so that it played "Home Sweet Home".

We hope you will be stimulated to do a little research of your own while there are still people around us who can recall the tales of how it used to be in Fremont along the Vistula Road.

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H. L. BEAMS
H. G. BEAMS
FREMONT, INDIANA



FREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members of the Fremont Fire Department are noted for their speed in arriving at the scene of a fire. From hand pumping fire equipment to modern motorized equipment is the story of the Fremont Volunteer Fire Department. Do you remember the old wooden tank pumper? The pumper had to be pulled by hand to the fires and it would require four men on each side to operate. When the Model T Ford came on the market the pumper was remodeled so it could be pulled behind a car. In 1914 the first motorized piece of equipment was purchased

by the Fremont Town Board, a Model T truck with two chemical tanks. Soda and acid were mixed with water to provide pressure to force the water. In 1929 a new Model A Ford was purchased through public subscription by local businessmen and farmers. Any farmer that subscribed money would receive free fire protection. This was the beginning of fire protection for the rural areas around Fremont.

The year 1937 was a big year for Fremont—city water was installed. A front end pump was

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GAY'S MARKET, INC.
 FREMONT, INDIANA



Home of the Fremont Firemen

installed and a 250 gallon water tank replaced one of the chemical tanks. One of the chemical tanks was kept in use because some people did not think a fire could be extinguished with the use of water alone. The last chemical tank left the scene in 1939 and that was the end of an era.

From then until now, new equipment has been added yearly until Fremont has one of the best organized fire departments in this area. Although the firemen are all full time workers at their occupations, they keep up to date with various kinds of fire drills locally and with the Steuben county firemen.

The Fremont area is proud of its Volunteer Fire Department.

Saga Of Silas Doty

Silas Doty - renegade, self-designed philanthropist, frontiersman, rogue, and legend - was born in Vermont in 1800 and ended his colorful (though jaded) life in the bordering states of Michigan and Indiana, particularly Branch and Hillsdale counties in Michigan and the Willow Prairie area in Steuben County, Indiana.

He arrived in Steuben County with his family in April 1839, and rented a house near Willow Prairie. Later that same year, he purchased a farm north and west of this same settlement. During this time and among these people, Doty did his best to gain and keep their good will and, though his disreputable career as a thief continued, his reputation, as a farmer, blacksmith, and neighbor was praised - perhaps because he was well liked in the fashion of the frontier or perhaps because he was feared for his known deeds which ranged from petty thievery to murder.

Old "Sile" Doty died at Reading, Michigan of a liver ailment at about 80 years of age. He was buried in the Mundy Cemetery at Kinderhook, Branch County, Michigan beside his wife, Sophia.

In the word of his obituary from the "Hillsdale Standard" March 14, 1876:

"Notwithstanding his many depredations of the property of others, which caused him to be an object of fear to the law-abiding citizens in the neighborhood in which he might be staying, he was not without noble traits of character and he is reported to have many times relieved the wants of the suffering, even if in doing so he was obliged to commit an act upon another which jeopardized his personal liberty. 'Death covers a multitude of sins'. Let the mantle of charity be thrown around his memory."

Compiled by Wm. Keyes

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BARRY'S GREENHOUSE
FREMONT, INDIANA

BARTON LAKE CAMPING
FREMONT, INDIANA



Main Street of the Town of Ray, Located on the Indiana-Michigan State Line

HISTORY OF RAY

It has been said, Ray was a child of the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad. The embryo for Ray had not been conceived in mind or matter until the railroad came through in 1869. The railroad company had established a grain repository and depot there that year. Several years preceeding this, Alexander McNaughton (pioneer) had purchased the land on the south side of the line between the John Duguid and Thomas Ford farms, where the railroad crosses from Indiana into Michigan. It was he who furnished the impetus for develop-

ing a trading center around the depot, grainery and post office situated there. At seventy-two years of age, Alexander McNaughton had completed the platting of Ray on November 19, 1873.

"The first store was built by Archibald and Robert McNaughton, Sr. and was located on the south east corner of the square; the little old store still stands (1932) just north of H. D. Lint's store. The first schoolhouse was located right near where the new one still stands and

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RAY MILLING COMPANY
RAY, INDIANA

RAY GROCERY
RAY, INDIANA

Lidy Handy Duguid was one of the first school teachers; prior to this time, Edith Fulton McNaughton taught a select school in the building just south and east of the depot. The first frame schoolhouse was a one-roomed building and faced the south; the road at that time did not extend farther north than the schoolhouse and all was woods just north of it. The building is now a residence in Ray. The new school house was completed in 1917, culminating a long effort. The Rev. D. C. Jack (Convenanter minister) finished the enterprise and it was called "The House That Jack Built." The First M. E. Church was built in 1902. The first meat market was located where the post office now stands, and was operated by D. H. and Abb Paul. The first post office was in the first meat market."

The whole story of the development of the town after 1869 would require more space than can be provided here. The 1870's saw the first



Ray Undertaker

stores, the Bennett House (hotel), and homes for retiring pioneers and others constructed. The Covenanters erected their new church there in 1876 . . . during the '80's and '90's better store buildings and more dwellings plus a frame schoolhouse were built. The store buildings made of brick and tile on the southeast side were built during the first decade of the 1900s. By 1917 Ray had achieved its full growth. E. B. McNaughton says of this period, "Ray was a prospering little business town with two churches, a fine schoolbuilding, a post office with two rural mail routes, a depot, three grocery stores, a good bank, a large drygoods business with anything you needed, a millinery shop, a hardware and implement store (the largest in the county), meat market, the largest elevator business in the county, a large lumber yard, a good physician, a barber, an undertaker, a harness maker, blacksmith shop, window frame factory and garage. Busses were meeting six passenger trains a day to carry people to



Early Rural Mail Carrier

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Neil A. Doty, Proprietor
 FREMONT, INDIANA



Railroad Played An Important Part In Growth of Ray

Clear Lake. There were four freights through each day also.

H. D. Lint remembers, "Nothing beats a good brass band — and Ray had one. Local and long distance calls could be made through the telephone exchange. Mail was hauled from Ray to Coldwater before and after 1900. A section gang maintaining the tracks between Angola and Montgomery worked out of Ray. One of the best baseball teams of the area with Lou Fox pitching (either right or left handed) considered the town its home. Stockbuyers shipped several carloads of cattle and hogs away each

week; timber buyers did a prospering business too. Lord's Commercial Cigars were manufactured in the village. You could get dressed up in your 'Sunday Best' and have your picture taken at Sylvia Hillard's photography gallery in the corner of the old hardware building."

The era just related marked the end of an epoch. Truly, it was her "Golden Age."

The bank and hardware were to disappear from Ray's main street in the 1920s. However, there were businesses operating in the building until the great fire of Ray in 1929 . . . when

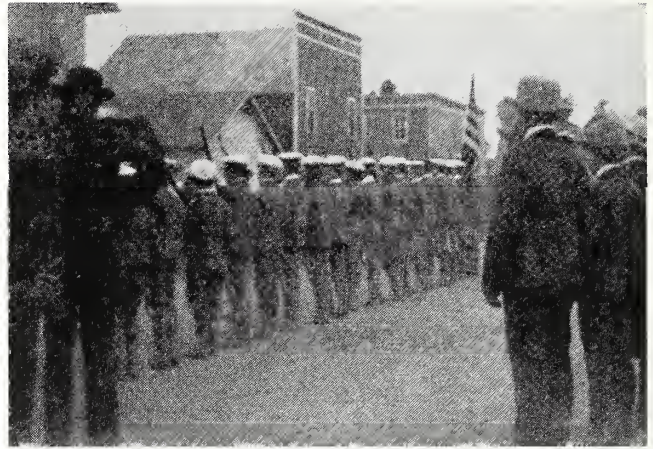
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STEUBEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

FREMONT, INDIANA

the drugstore, hardware and bank were burned to the ground. This was a very disastrous day for the village. The post office was miraculously saved; it has been of great service and good for the community throughout the years. When the depression of the 1930s was in full bloom, quite a few buildings and houses were sold and moved from Ray; this was a sad spectacle. The depot, lumber yard, the department store, and many dwellings were taken away.

Even with the many vicissitudes the town experienced, as just related, the citizenry carried on.



Drill Unit at Ray



Hillard's Photo Gallery, Ray

And now . . . Ray is approaching her hundredth birthday. From within a radius of several miles, the people still patronize the post office, stores, elevator and businesses as they have through the years. The old Covenanters Church is now a Community Church and very active in the area.

All of us who have spent a part of our lives within the limits of the little town hold a very warm feeling for her. She deserves a Centennial birthday party when the time comes!

Lee S. Duguid

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JERRY CRAWFORD
FREMONT, INDIANA

PENNER'S SANITATION SERVICE
RAY, INDIANA

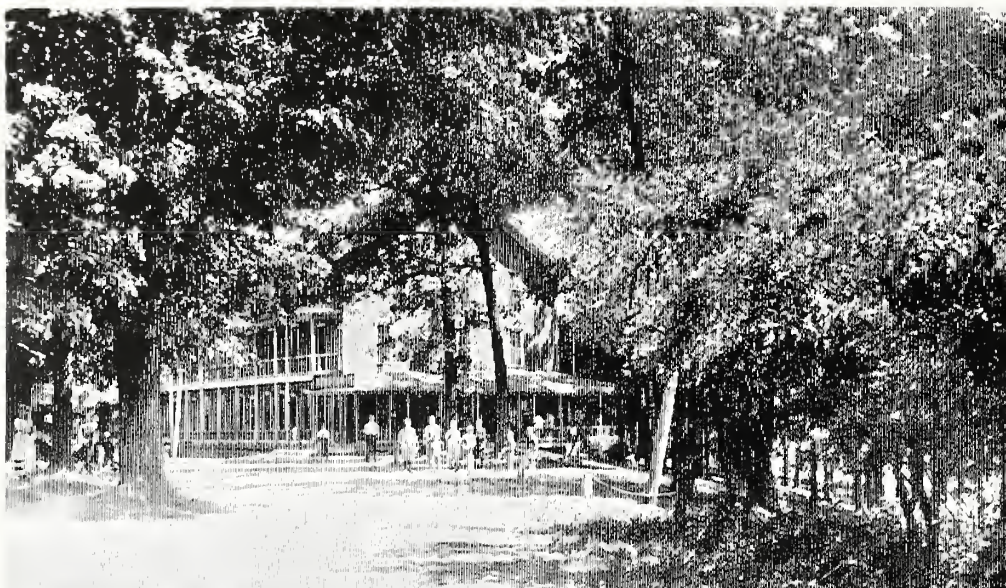


Early Merchandise Delivery Was Made By Peddler's Wagons Like the One Shown Above

ROSE HARTWICK THORPE

Rose Hartwick Thorpe, who wrote "Curfew Must Not Ring Tonight" lived in Fremont, one block south of the main street, in the building formerly occupied by The Fremont Eagle. During the era of high school literary societies (in Fremont, the Albions and Emersonians) the students were required to recite, memorize and even compose literary selections. Her poem about the times of Cromwell in England was a favorite selections.

Rose Hartwick Thorpe was born in Mishawaka, Indiana July 18, 1850. She graduated from the high school in Litchfield, Michigan in 1868. In 1883, one year after she wrote "Curfew Must Not Ring Tonight" she received an Honorary degree from Hillsdale College Hillsdale, Michigan. She also wrote many other poems and stories and some pamphlets. According to "Who's Who" she lived her latter years in San Diego, California.



Hazenhurst, Clear Lake, Ind.

CLEAR LAKE

Clear Lake is the smallest township in the county; it borders the states of Michigan and Ohio. A lake is situated in the center of the township, and because of the clarity of the water, it was named Clear Lake by the Indians.

The first settler of Clear Lake Township was John Russell, coming in March, 1836. Using his covered wagon for shelter, he later built a log cabin in the woods the following summer. The township settled rapidly; religious services were held at the house of Levi Douglass, in 1838, by a Mr. Swiger, an exhorter of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The first preaching was by an itinerant Methodist preacher.

A school house, built by Ariah Beach, at Harris Corners, was the beginning of formal education in 1843. Harris Corners is the junction of Road 1 and Road 120. Four elementary schools were located at one time in Clear Lake township.



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FREMONT LUMBER COMPANY
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Grave Marker of Chief Red Jacket

At a picnic held at Clear Lake, July 4, 1858, a terrible accident occurred in which eleven persons were drowned. This was caused by carelessness on the part of the man in charge of the boat.

In the years about 1880, two hotels—the

Clear Lake House and Island House—were popular pleasure resorts.

Many tribes of Indians roamed the countryside at one time. And near the Hazenhurst Hotel is buried Chief Red Jacket.

A grave marker, broken and paint stained was found some years ago when some excavating was being done near the Hazenhurst Hotel. Lest it be forever lost the late, Mrs. Dorothy Borton Merrill took care of it and later gave it to Mr. F. B. McNaughton of Fremont for safe keeping. To those who cherish Indian lore this is indeed a wonderful piece of evidence that Chief Red Jacket lived and died in the Clear Lake area.

The marker, of wood, bears the following inscription: Chief Red Jacket, Warrior chief of the Baw Beese Indians, June 30, 1833." According to the story of an eye witness, Chief Red Jacket and a party of his braves were encamped on what is known as North Point, where they were surprised by a band of Wyoming Indians and were massacred and a few days after, the body of Red Jacket was brought to this place for burial on June 30, 1833."



Brown School Bus — Clear Lake



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BRESSLER'S HARDWARE
FREMONT, INDIANA

THE VISTULA ROAD

Excerpts from "The Road to the West"

by Maurice McClew

Compiled by Dorothea Houser

The air of an early October morning was warm and balmy in northern Indiana in 1839. From the forest could be heard the chatter of scurrying squirrels, as they scampered to and fro. The foliage of the great trees was beginning to take on the autumnal colors, and the contrasting colors were like a painted fairyland, to the two travelers riding westward on a road, the Vistula in the extreme northeastern part of the state.

The first look would have told you that they were father and son. The country thru which they rode was a succession of low hills, stretches of level lowlands, and swamps thickly grown with tall grass and willows. The road itself was crooked and narrow, avoiding where possible the swamps and hills that obstructed its course, and rarely opened into the clearing of a pioneer. Except where broken by swampy ground or the small clearing of a settler, on every side stood the great forest as it had existed for centuries.

The younger traveler gazing with awe, asked of his companion, "What did the innkeeper at Toledo give as the name of this road?" This father said it was called "The Vistula, in Indiana."

"I believe there is one of the lakes he said we would see" pointing north. Thru the fringe of the trees, and about half a mile distant glistened the waters a lake, calm and placid in the

sunlight. "The fellow said it was thirty miles from the Indiana line to Mongoquinon," "We can't reach Monoquinon tonight then" replied the young man.

At a turn in the road, a half mile farther on beside a stream, an Indian camp was seen and three half naked Indian children fled to the protection of their mothers who merely glanced at the white men. Everywhere around the lodges of deer skin could be seen the plenty of the autumnal season, a wild turkey and two or three wild geese, hanging from the limb of a tree. Baskets nearby were filled with wild fruits and nuts gathered from the surrounding region.

The travelers did not pause for their progress was slow, and the sun was at its height, when next they rode into a settlement of four or five log cabins built in an opening in the forest beside the road.

Seeing a man standing at the gate of the enclosed ground of one cabin, the young man began a conversation. "Can you please tell me the name of this settlement, and the distance to Mongoquinon?" "Yes, sir, this place is called Brockville (Fremont) and Mongoquinon (Howe) is nigh onto twenty miles west from here."

"If possible we would like to get our horses fed, and something to eat for ourselves" said the young man. The answer was, "Old Tillotson has considerable hay mash. Tie your beasts under that tree, and the water's over there at the windlass. Mari'l get you something to eat, just sit a spell."

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FREMONT, INDIANA

VAUGHN'S CLEANERS
FREMONT, INDIANA

During a substantial meal they learned from their host that Brockville had been settled by New York people about three years before, and that a larger settlement would be found fifteen miles west on the same road. He told them they would find a place to stop for the night, before reaching the other settlement, at a double log cabin called the "Vistula Tavern". The owner making special provision for keeping the travelers, chance brought to its door.

To his wife, entering the room he said "I've just been telling them they would get a bed and grub at Carlow's and she nodded, saying "its about time for the coon-skin Preacher". Turning to the two strangers she said "the coon skin Preacher is a Methodist who rides around and preaches. He lives in Fort Wayne, fifty miles south of here. You don't have any newspapers with you, do you?" The travelers answered by getting a bundle of newspapers from their saddlebags. She thanked them, and carefully laid them on the mantle of the fireplace.

Their host showed them the road they were to follow, and they again entered the forest headed for Mongoquinon. As the two men rode slowly westward from Brockville, they entered more rugged and rough country. The road they had been traveling followed the northern rim of a low valley. Below in the basin of the valley, thru a break in the forest could be seen, the silvery waters of a small lake, a winding stream flowed from this lake (Lake George). They traveled on thru an expanse of marshland south-westward into the distant lakes. Towering over them rose a hill almost mountainous in size, crowned with trees, whose foliage was of almost unbelievably varied colors, standing in contrast to the blue of the sky above and the lakes below.

During the afternoon journey they had passed the homes of pioneers in small clearings, then after ascending a hill on the road, they came out on a stretch of level land, seeing the double log cabin that answered the description of the Vistula Tavern. The clearing where the cabin stood, was larger than any since leaving the Ohio State-line. The tavern itself was composed of two large log cabins, set end to end, enormous stone fireplaces at each end, a picket fence, where Hollyhocks had been blooming earlier. A huge Elm tree in the rear shaded a well and its crude wooden windlass. Farther back was a log stable and stacks of wild hay. To the east and south could be seen the waters of another lake (James) and the high hill seen earlier in the afternoon.

They introduced themselves to the father and his son, who stood near the fence. When invited in for supper by the inn-keeper the travelers found themselves in the general living room of the family. At one end was the stone fireplace with its roaring blaze, throwing shadows around the room; an iron kettle with a cloud of steam, singing and puffing a merry accompaniment to the crackling flames. Logs of firewood stacked near the fireplace were only a little rougher than the furniture. In one corner stood the spinning wheel, and the center of the room was dominated by a table fashioned from rough hewn oak. Suspended over the fireplace was the huntsmans rifle, and from the ceiling hung rows of Indian corn. From the walls bunches of herbs filled the room with their fragrance.

The one long shelf held the few pewter dishes, brightly scoured and reflecting the light from the fireplace and the candles on the table.

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ANGOLA TOWN HOUSE
The Herringtons

901 North Wayne St.

ANGOLA, INDIANA

A rough cut of Henry Clay was the only picture, but across the room stood an enormous clock, and on each side of it was a miscellaneous collection of Indian relics, rude benches served as chairs, and were drawn up beside the table. The foods presented were substantial and plentiful.

The conversation was filled with talk on the politics of the country and the administration of Van Buren. Many years later he was to see this rough, but strong and honest people become a great factor in the political principals of a great nation.

At the moment the inn keeper was full of telling about the Indian trial by old Chief Baw Beese a "tribe from up in Michigan." He would come down to the lake sometimes and camp. The inn keeper told how the man at the mill was involved by selling whiskey to the Indians and after the Indian trial the people from Vermont Settlement (Orland) and south of the Point (Jamestown) got together, and came down to the Mill and gave the man at the Mill his choice of getting out or else. He left the area.

The coon skin Preacher arrived at the end of this tale, and was introduced as Thomas Davidson. He told them he would accompany them as far as Mongoquinon (Howe).

The three men ascended the ladder that led to the loft under the roof to the bed chamber for the guests. There the three men found low and crude but comfortable beds. After listening for a time to the wind rattling the clapboards over head, they slept.

Awakening in the morning, an early departure, a wave of the hand, and the three men

headed westward thru the forest on the Vistula Road faster than the previous day. They listened to the Preacher tell of the people they had just left and times past. Thereafter they rode into the little village of Vermontville (Orland) and paused a very short time. Resuming their ride, they speculated on the future development of the country thru which they were traveling.

It was nearing the middle of the day when they rode into the settlement of Mongoquinon (Howe). They found a cluster of log houses built in close proximity to a mill. Not far from the mill stood the one store and trading post, also built of logs. The village had been the site of an Indian Town of considerable importance. There was a large clearing to the east, but on the west the forest came up to the cabins. Some large oak trees stood in the open space near the cabins.

Dismounting, the men watered their horses at the stream that ran alongside the clearing, bought hay for their horses, and were directed to one of the cabins for food for themselves. After delaying their departure for an hour longer so that their horses could have ample time to eat, the two men bade good bye to the Preacher. They had barely penetrated the forest again, when the settlement was lost from view—they rode westward on the Vistula Road.

One more night camp in the woods, and the next day they arrived at the tavern in Elkhart. They did not wish to cross the Kankakee marshland nor go into the village of Chicago, so there they left the Vistula Road. On to Logansport and LaFayette and then into Springfield, Illinois, looking for their land, which had been surveyed by a man named Abraham Lincoln.

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ANGOLA, INDIANA

MUNDY'S SERVICE CENTER
Phillips "66"
FREMONT, INDIANA

POKAGON STATE PARK

Compiled by Ruby Hershey

Interest in a State Park System in Indiana began some years ago and in 1917 this interest and system began to take form with the purchase of McCormicks Creek Canyon State Park. This was followed by Turkey Run State Park, Muscatatuck Park, Clifty Falls State Park.

With the obvious trend of things, it was only a matter of time before the citizens of Steuben County began to see that the beauty of their little part of the world was an asset no longer to be neglected. Why shouldn't the State Park System be represented here?

Desirable sites with the required area for a park were not easily found, though by one of those chances that seem providential, there was then on the market a tract of 580 acres lying along the east shore of Lake James, owned by the heirs of the late Adam Failing.

In the early 1840's, Thomas Failing, born in Ohio in 1796, with his family of 5 children, including son Adam, came to the vicinity of LaPorte, Ind. looking for land. Finding nothing suitable in way of timber and water, he came eastward to Steuben County. Arriving here with \$400.00 and finding plenty of water and great stands of white wood (tulip) trees, began buying land on "The Narrows" a strip of land on Lake James.

As time went on, he and son Adam bought land on all sides, both small and large holdings, such as the Chadwick place, the Wheaton place, et al, and by 1870 they owned approximately 700 acres. Thomas Failing died in 1883 and son Adam became the owner. 160 acres, which was later known as the Eckert Farm, was taken over

by a widowed sister of Adam; this sister was the grandmother of Paul E. Dygert who presently resides west of Fremont. Much of the information concerning the Failing family was supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Dygert.

October 8, 1924 an open meeting of the Steuben County Chamber of Commerce was held and addressed by Richard Lieber, director of Dept. of Conservation. The Chamber of Commerce voted unanimously to put on a drive to raise funds to purchase a tract of land as a state park. The Failing farm was chosen as the most desirable, and an option on it was secured at \$35,000.00. During the campaign for funds, it was suggested that a better way would be for the County to buy the tract and pay for it from County funds. The aid of the Legislature, Jan. 1925, was invoked to secure such legislation as was necessary to enable a county purchase of land for such purpose.

As soon as the law became effective, the County Commissioners purchased the tract, a deed for the land was received from Ernest Waters, and it was given by the County Commissioners, in the name of the people of Steuben County to the State of Indiana as a Christmas gift during the holiday week of 1925.

On July 17, 1926, the property was formally transferred to the state with appropriate dedicatory exercises, the presentation made by Hon. Maurice McClew of Angola, to Gov. Ed Jackson, representing the state. From the governor, Richard Lieber, director Dept. of Conservation, received the custody of the park in the name of that department.

March 17, 1926, the Indiana Department of Conservation purchased from Latta F. Hershey 80 acres of land in Jamestown Town-

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ANGOLA, INDIANA

ship, this tract of land holding in its heart a beautiful small lake so hidden in its wild environment it might easily be undiscovered if one was not directed to it. This lake then known as Failing Lake is now Lake Lonidaw, in memory of the Indian bride of Chief Pokagon. Also purchased were 28 acres in Pleasant Township of John W. Orndorf, making a total of approximately 707 acres in the park.

The Steuben County Commissioners at this time were Dorsey Reese, Chas. S. Shutts and Hugh L. Gilbert. The state officials were Gov. Ed Jackson, Col. Richard Lieber, Director Department Conservation, Capt. Sauers, ass't.

The park was given the official title of Pokagon State Park, in honor of Simon Pokagon; a lasting memorial to the Red Man and to an educated Indian chief who lived out his life in Allegan County, Michigan.

Announcement was made that hotel service was to be offered and camp sites provided. In April, 1926, Col. Lieber announced the Park hotel would be ready for occupancy in the spring of 1927; would be built in two units each costing \$3500.00 — would be constructed of tile from the state penal farm, stucco, and timber cut from the park property. The hotel would be named Potawatomi Inn, to honor the last Indian tribe in possession of our country.

Mr. and Mrs. Werner Janku were the first lessees — the first public dinner was served May 27 and the formal dedication took place June 19, 1927. The Inn stands on a knoll on the north shore of the first basin, commanding a beautiful view.

During the 1930's a CCC Camp was maintained on the premises and many of the first shelter houses and camp grounds were built by their efforts. A CCC reunion is held each year, many of the returnees now being fathers or grandfathers.

The first Superintendent was Jacob Bergman in 1930. Mr. Bergman built more than one mile of 8 ft. fence enclosing over 40 acres of land in the north part of the Park for corrals for wild animals.

Supt. Bergman died in 1930 as a result of injuries suffered in an encounter with an infuriated buck deer in this corral. Mr. John Diggs, Supt. of the State Park System was very painfully injured at the same time.

Pokagon has had several Superintendents, among them Russell Sprague 1934-1945, R. Ridenour 1945-1949, Russell Sprague 1949-1953, Emory Boyd 1953-60. The present Superintendent is Mr. Ray Fisher.

Mr. Fisher states "The present animals included 3 elk, 7 buffalo, a baby buffalo, many deer, and several births anticipated. In 1966, 51 wild turkeys were set free and several nests have been found where hatching is taking place. The eggs are obtained from Kansas and Pennsylvania.

1967 construction is being done on a complete sewer system for the entire park, an addition has been made to the Inn and old rooms are being remodeled.

A canal is planned from Snow Lake to near camp grounds, a boat basin will be maintained; it is hoped this project may be finished in about 2 years.

Recent purchases and additions to the State Park are — 65 acres from Jack Flory (old Eckert farm), 38 acres from Lewis B. Hershey, 137.49 acres from Mrs. Russell Sprague making a total acreage of 1173.49 acres in Pokagon State Park." (1967)

Pokagon lies 5 miles north of Angola and about 5 miles West of Fremont. Available at the Park are a public bathing beach, picnic areas, camping sites, trailer areas, miles of hiking trails, riding stables, wild animal pens, tennis court and many other activities of interest to the entire family.

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ANGOLA, INDIANA

FREMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Christine Moreland

To get the history for this library we must go back to November 12, 1909, and find the Sorosis Club organizing in the home of Mrs. Anna Wells. It was organized as a Literary Club and its specific aims were educational. The following officers were elected at that meeting: Mrs. Hulda Kinsey, President; Mrs. Nellie Reed, Vice-president; Mrs. Anna Wells, Secretary; Mrs. Pearl Watters, Treasurer; and Miss Irene Hall, Librarian.

The members of this club were not long satisfied to confine their efforts to regular club work but decided that they should have a library established for the benefit of their members and others in the community who might be willing to support it. The ladies gave books of their own, loaned others, asked their friends to give books, gave socials and entertainments to raise money, ever striving to increase the number of books.

On the 5th of March, 1910, the Sorosis Library was opened in some rooms on the second floor in the building now occupied by the First National Bank. This library was open to the members of the Sorosis and others who paid one dollar per year to help support it. It was understood at that time that all books donated to the Sorosis Library were to be transferred to the Fremont Public Library whenever that was established, and thus the corner stone of the Fremont Public Library was laid.

The Community Social Service Committee,

on the 16th of August, 1919, with the co-operation of the Sorosis Club, after having studied the Public Library laws, set to work to comply with the laws and secure the legal establishment of the Fremont Public Library and the extension of its advantages into Fremont Township and its adjoining townships.

The members of the Library Board were legally appointed and met on the 11th of September, 1919, and after adopting a complete set of by-laws, elected the following officers and committees:

The officers as elected were: Sidney Young, President; Dr. Robert L. Wade, Vice-president; Lynn C. Bisbee, Secretary.

The Sorosis Club continued to work regularly, missing no opportunity to further the interests of the library, and true to their agreement with the public, on September 16, 1919, donated their Sorosis Club Library consisting of over 700 bound volumes besides pamphlets, bulletins and equipment to the Fremont Public Library, appointing their former librarian, Miss Irene Hall, to make the presentation speech which she did in a very acceptable manner, including in her speech a history of the Sorosis Library. The library was formally accepted by the Library Board.

The members and trustees of the First Congregational Church of Fremont, Indiana, at that meeting offered, upon the advice of Rev.

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John Humfreys, of Angola, Indiana, President of the Missionary Society of the Congregational Church for Indiana, to sell their land and church building to the Library Board. The matter was referred to the building committee at that meeting. The building committee reported favorably at the next meeting and at the next regular meeting the Library Board voted in favor of accepting the offer and buying the building. The finance committee immediately set to work to raise a fund to buy and remodel the building, secure a Balopticon, and furnish funds until the tax levies can carry the expenses of buying additional equipment, additional books, periodicals and magazines and establishing and maintaining the library in such a way that it will be intellectual and moral uplift in the entire community.

Since its establishment the people of the community have loaned a number of collections of books and magazines, donated days of time to its upkeep, and left no stone unturned to show their appreciation of the library and the donations, loans, and work of the members of the Sorosis and Library Board and friends.



Railroad Crew Working In Fremont Area

Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer Chief Weatherman

Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer, who recently retired as Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, lived in Fremont and attended school during six years of his early boyhood. His father, the Rev. F. A. Reichelderfer served as minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church 1902-1908.

After graduating from Northwestern University in 1917, he did post-graduate work at Harvard University in Meteorology. In 1919, as Ensign in the Navy, he was sent to Lisbon, Portugal, to provide weather information for naval aircraft making the first transatlantic flight.

Dr. Reichelderfer has served the United States for 45 years. He has distinguished himself as a Naval Officer, attaining the rank of Commander before resigning to become Chief of the Weather Bureau for 24 years. He has been a pioneer in the growth of Meteorology and led the Weather Bureau into the satellite area. Better forecasting and warnings have been provided by the launching of the Tiros satellites in 1960. As a leader in scientific affairs he was active in plans and negotiations that led to the creation of the World Meteorological Organization. He was chosen as their first president and served from 1951-1955. At the present time he is acting consultant for that organization.

He lives with wife, the former Beatrice Hoyle of Bristol, R. I. in Washington, D.C. They have one son, Bruce Allen, of Bethesda, Maryland.

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JAMESTOWN -- LAND OF LAKES

While Fremont was experimenting with a name for its community 8 miles to the west on the Vistula Road, another group of hardy people were establishing Jamestown—more affectionately known as Jimtown. Its township contains 24 square miles or 15,500 acres of land. Two thousand of these acres are covered by water. Several lakes beautify this area, the largest being Lake James. The top of this township borders the state of Michigan.

As Jeremiah Tillotson and John McMahon had started to settle Fremont, so did John D. and Dennis Depue settle in Jamestown in August 1835. They were soon followed by John Wilkins and Jared Fox in September, 1835.

The first land entry was made by Albert Ansley May 1835 and Barton Collins entered his land July 1835. Barton built the first log house between Orland and Bear Creek.

There were only three white families living in Jamestown in 1836 - the John Knott's, the Thomas Knott's and the John Bells. This was the winter in which John Knotts built the first saw-mill on the outlet of Lake George. Evidently this enterprise was successful because he soon built a grist-mill at the same location.

School was one of the first institutions to be devised and the classes were held in Ezekial Brown's house. Fidellia Tillotson was the first teacher. She received 1.25 per week for her



The Old Jamestown School

efforts. The pay was raised by subscription and a tuition fee was charged each child who attended the school.

Religion, which played so great a part in the pioneer's life, was conducted in the settlers homes until suitable buildings could be erected. (see photo) Elder Staley has the honor of being the first to minister to these people. Martin Tillotson and Minerva Mallory were the first couple to be married in the township.

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Lake George Taken from the Dam

Dennis Depue must have been an expert gardener as someone remembered to mention in the records that he put out the first garden.

Catherine Depue was the first white child born in Jamestown Township.

By 1853, other settlers had arrived, so Simeon Gilbert and Joseph Hutchinson laid out the plat for the village of Jamestown. Like Fremont, Jamestown changed its name, from Eagleville to Jamestown. The post office was named Crooked Creek because there was another Jamestown in Indiana.

William Bliss must have been an extra ordinary man among the first inhabitants. He was the first postmaster and in addition to this he was the contractor for the first mail route. He supervised the mail delivery for many years. The mail was carried on horse back once a week, each way, east and west. The route was along the Vistula between Van Buren in La-Grange County and Toledo, Ohio and also included Lima (Howe) and Brockville (Fremont).

For a number of years the community thrived and in 1853 a bank was established with John Rutton as its first cashier. Soon a store, run by a Mr. Carpenter, and a hotel run by George Hershey appeared. The settlers were fortunate to have a doctor, Dr. Waterhouse to help them. A root and herb doctor, John Wilkinson, had preceded him.

A stage line, operating from Coldwater, Michigan to Auburn, Indiana, started in the same year, so they were no longer isolated from the north and south. Sealy and Fox were the contractors for this transporation which later extended to Fort Wayne.

Records show that the familiar cemetery must have been platted before 1841 as William Simons was buried there that year. (the first grave)

Land, at this time, could be purchased for \$1.25 per acre. Wheat was 50 cents per bu. and was usually sold at Adrian, Michigan.

From this band of 100 inhabitants the population grew until in 1870 there were 779



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The Mill at Jamestown

people. A decline started in 1880 with a loss of 67 persons.

In 1880 the assessed land value was \$101,225. The value of improvements was \$36,660. Personal property was valued at \$37,835, making a total assessed value of \$175,720.

Today, as you walk and drive around Jamestown territory, see beautiful lakes George and James won't you pause a moment to recall how it was 100 years ago?

Lt. Lee Stanley Cassel

Dr. Lee Stanley Cassel, was born in Fremont Oct. 23, 1889; he was instantly killed on November 4, 1918, a week before the Armistice was signed. Dr. Cassel was tending the wounded in an Aid Tent in Englefontaine, France when he was killed. The American Legion Post in Fremont was named in his memory.

Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey

Lt. General Lewis Blaine Hershey, younger son of Latta F. and Rosetta Richardson Hershey was born in Steuben Co. in 1893. He enlisted in the Indiana National Guard in 1911 as a private and entered the Regular Army as a Captain in 1920.

Gen. Hershey became associated with the Selective Service in 1936 and served as Secretary and Executive Officer of the joint Army and Navy Selective Service Committee. In 1941 he was appointed by Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt as Director of the system. He received his present rank in 1956.

Gen. Hershey is a trustee of Tri-State college and holds the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the following colleges: Tri-State College, Ohio State University, Oglethorpe University, Albright College, LaFayette College, Columbia University, Norwich University and Indiana University.

He has received many decorations and awards, including the Distinguished Service Medal (Army), Distinguished Service Medal (Navy), top honors from the American Legion, National Guard Association, Regular Veterans Association of the United States, a special award from the Freedoms Foundation, and many other honors. He has been very active in civic affairs, including Boy Scouts and Red Cross.

He is married to the former Ellen Dygert, of Angola and is the father of four children—Gilbert, George, Kathryn, and Ellen Margaret. He has twelve grandchildren.

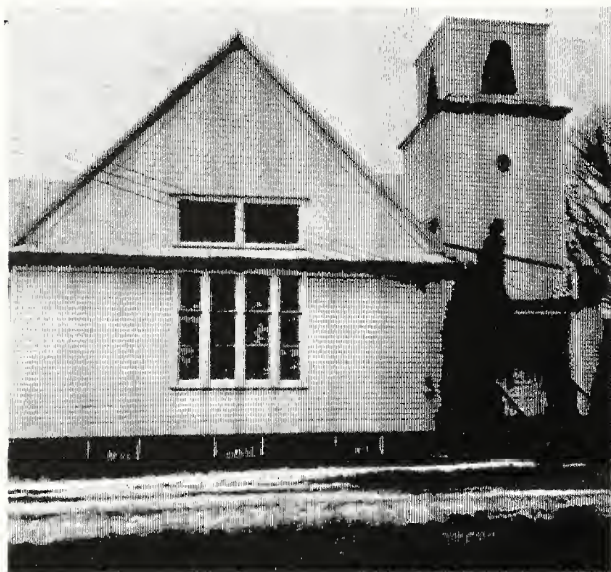
Gen. and Mrs. Hershey reside in Bethesda, Maryland.

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FREMONT, INDIANA

HISTORY OF THE FREMONT



EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

The year was 1858. National interest was focused on the Lincoln-Douglas debate and the laying of the first Atlantic cable. Population was shifting westward bringing to this community from Dauphin County, Pa., a family whose interests included religion and Christian fellowship.

In 1856 the Frederick Straw family came to this area from Pennsylvania where they were members of the Evangelical Association. During the same year Rev. M. Alspach and F. Shively who were serving the DeKalb Mission, and through their efforts established a class known as East Fremont. For fifteen years or more the services were held in the home of Frederick Straw who with the members of his family were the charter members of the organization at Fremont.

The first church building was one purchased from the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1874. Later a new church was built in 1899. It was located just south of the old building.

At General Conference in 1922, the merger between the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelical Church took place and the name The Evangelical Church was adopted. 1946 brought the merging of The Evangelical Church with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Thus our Church became a part of the denomination known as The Evangelical United Brethren.

The old church was sold for \$97.00 in 1900, and construction was started on a new church. And on January 14, it was officially dedicated. It was reported that the other churches in town held no services that day in order to attend the dedication services at the Evangelical Church. During this year also, the parsonage was purchased and the Church given an exterior coat of paint.

Since then many improvements have been made. Enlargement of the church basement, new kitchen and rest rooms and enlargement of the dining room, chapel and foyer redecorated are among the many improvements.

The membership at Fremont has fluctuated over the years, as church memberships do, the present membership approaching the all time high in the year 1900. We have a progressive Church School, W.S.M.S., and Youth Fellowship.

Rev. and Mrs. Jason Hollopeter are now stationed at Fremont, Rev. Jason Hollopeter serving the Fremont and Stokes Chapel churches and Mrs. Hollopeter the East Gilead and Bethel churches.

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AREA CHURCHES . . .



Clear Lake Baptist Church

CLEAR LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH

The original Baptist Church of Clear Lake, Ind., was first organized Aug. 13, 1864 when a group of people met at a brick schoolhouse which was located where the church parsonage now stands. At that time it was known as the Regular Baptist Church.

The articles of faith were very strict and it was required of the members that they adhere very closely to these promises of pledges.

In the fall of 1871 the members decided to build a church and a parcel of land 10x20 rods

was purchased for \$20.00. The church was erected by Strunk Bros., of Montgomery, Mich. for the price of \$1800.00.

By 1930 many of the members had passed away, some had moved away and others had become disinterested so it seemed wise to disband. For five years the doors were closed and then four interested men of the community reorganized the church. These men were Geo-Straw, Chas. Waltz, John Huffman and E. C. Hobart. In 1948, F. C. Lowery of Chicago, Ill. made a substantial contribution in memory of his wife, Eva Phillips Lowery who had attended services at this church in her younger years. The money was used to erect a parsonage on the spot where the brick schoolhouse had stood, this land having been donated by Dr. and Mrs. O. T. Laird.

Rev. and Mrs. Chester Newcomb were the first residents of the new parsonage. In 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. L. Merrill very generously donated, built and completely furnished an addition to the church. The new educational building contained a Fellowship Hall that will accommodate 125 people, four class rooms, a fully equipped kitchen, two wash rooms and a pastor's study. The building is used by the community as well as the church. Rev. Richard Nyburg was pastor at that time. In 1965 the members redecorated the church sanctuary with paneling, new ceiling and lighting fixtures. At present Rev. John B. Kerr is the pastor.

Margaret Hardy

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Clear Lake Lutheran Chapel

THE CLEAR LAKE LUTHERAN CHAPEL

A group of Clear Lake cottagers organized the Clear Lake Lutheran Chapel Association and in 1938 began sponsoring summer services in an abandoned school on Route 120. The response on the part of vacationers in the area was so enthusiastic that "The Little White Chapel on Top of the Hill" was erected the following spring.

Attendance at the Chapel summer services has grown every year since that time until it now reaches close to 800 every Sunday, representing practically every denomination. While the chapel seats only 150, the overflow is comfortably seated on the beautifully landscaped grounds surrounding the chapel.

Dr. W. G. Polack of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, served as summer speaker at the chapel from its founding until 1949. Since then the Rev. Armin C. Oldsen, former Lutheran Hour Speaker and now pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church at Auburn, has been the preacher.

In 1950 residents in the area organized the Clear Lake Lutheran Church and services have

been held every Sunday throughout the year. The Rev. Mr. Oldsen serves as pastor of the congregation.

The Chapel Association is now planning to build an open church-pavilion on the curved hill south of the present chapel. It will be unique and attractive.

METHODIST CHURCH

It is difficult to fix the exact date of the introduction of Methodism into this part of the county, or to mention the names of all the preachers who have worked in this section. Until the first frame building was erected in 1844, the congregation met in homes, barns and other places around the small village. There was some trouble about the title to the land, so the frame was moved to its present location. The church was not completed until 1851, and for some time the worshippers used the "sleepers" for seats.



Fremont Methodist Church

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KEYES BARBER SHOP
Toledo Street
FREMONT, INDIANA

In 1872 this building was sold to the Evangelical Association; the Methodist having determined to erect a fine brick edifice. This church was completed in 1884, with fifty members. After the collapse of the furniture store, many brick buildings were condemned, and among them was the Methodist church. After this was torn down, another frame building was built and this became the Methodist place of worship until it burned in March, 1930.

The present church—a brick structure—was dedicated Sept. 21, 1930. At the present time the minister is Rev. Summers Clark.

REORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Just east of Fremont, Indiana on the Old Vistula Road (120) over the hill from the lake is a little white church known as the Clear Lake Branch of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The building was moved to its present location sometime near 1880 from a location a little west and a mile north of its present location. It served another domination until outgrown and replaced by a new edifice.

In the year of 1872 traveling ministers Columbus Scott and Clyde Ellis labored in the area holding meetings in one room schools and homes presenting the Gospel of Christ as interpreted by the church. Many families of the area responded to their challenge and a branch was organized in the year of 1877. It continued to



grow until in the year of 1925 when membership reached one hundred and fifty and a corps of ministry (Priesthood) numbered near twenty.

Dark days were ahead for the local church as internal strife was generated by proposed policy changes from the headquarters of the church in Independence, Mo.

When final disposition was made by the church and the membership, a goodly number withheld their support from the church and withdrew from its fellowship.

This difficulty dealt a most severe blow to the congregation and the zeal that was once resident within the congregation faded except for a few that were faithful and gave of their money, time, and prayers, to its life. In the 1940's new strength came to the congregation as new faces appeared, and new men were ordained into the ministry and took their place in the Priesthood of the church. Today eleven men hold offices in the Priesthood (ministry) of the church four Elders, three priest, one

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teacher, and three deacons each fulfilling the office of their calling as time talent and will permit. Membership again has grown to near one hundred and twenty. A very responsive zeal and spirit is reflected in their zeal to meet the needs of man of his need of Jesus Christ in his life.

The congregation takes pride in the improvements that have been made in the last 14 years with the additions of class rooms, vestibule, kitchen facilities, new gas furnace, sound system in the church and new pews, as well as the beauties of the surroundings in which the church sits.

Elder Arthur Middleton at present is the presiding minister by vote of the congregation.

Reported by Arthur Middleton



Latter Day Saints Church About 1907



Jamestown Community Church

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

In the village of Jamestown on June 4, 1872, a small group of men and women met to organize a church. The exact meeting place is not named. The church was organized according to the Statutes of the Congregational Church, and was to be known as The Jamestown Church of Christ. On Feb. 8, 1873, the constitution was slightly revised, and the name changed to The First Congregational Church of Jamestown.

In 1878, it was decided to construct a building of brick and stone for a new church. When fully completed, this church was a substantial structure of red brick, with white trim. In common with other churches of this period there was a tall steeple, wherein hung the beautifully deep toned bell. This church was dedicated in 1879.

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LAUERS LOG GARAGE
FREMONT, INDIANA

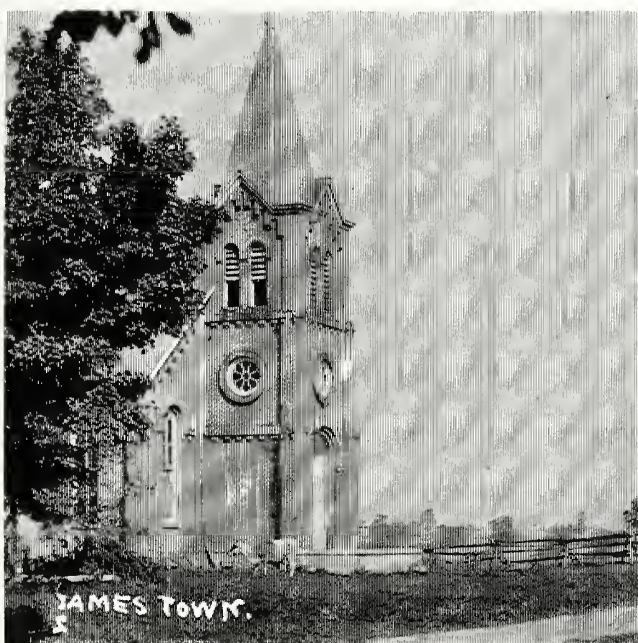
HIGBEE'S WELDING SHOP
FREMONT, INDIANA

In 1881, a loan was made for \$250.00, to help pay off the indebtedness, and it required more than thirty years to repay this loan. About 1910, after an appeal to the Methodist Conference, a minister was supplied and a plan evolved whereby the loan could be paid. After a few years, the church was returned to the Congregational denomination.

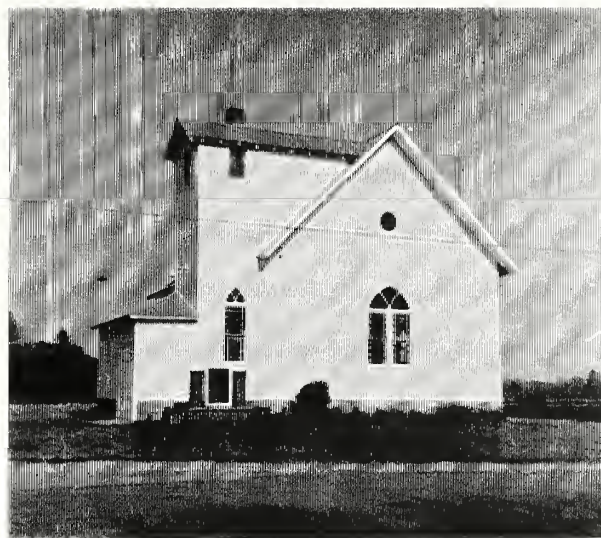
The church was completely destroyed by lightning in 1924, and worship services were held in the school house. By 1930, a church building and furnishings was bought north of Fremont. When the work of constructing the basement and foundation was completed, the church was moved to the present site. The church was dedicated and renamed — The Jamestown Community Church.

The first ministers were Rev. C. Kidders and Rev. L. P. Rose. The present minister is Rev. Charles Williams.

Mrs. Paul Dygert



Old Jamestown Church



Stokes Chapel

STOKES CHAPEL

The little country church by the side of the road, located 3 miles north of Fremont and known as Stokes Chapel of West California, was first built in 1868 and was organized by Reverend Swihart. In 1873 the first dedication was given by Reverend Shuey of Dayton, Ohio. The present church, known as Stokes Chapel Evangelical United Brethren was started by Reverend J. W. Lilly in August 1895.

One of the most outstanding groups in the Fremont area is the Stokes Chapel Ladies Aid. They were organized in 1899 and have worked diligently ever since then in Faith and Harmony, together with God. These ladies bought an abandoned country school house near their church where they hold their meetings and serve monthly dinners to the public and friends.

The Reverend James Hollopeter is the present minister. He serves from 55 to 75 persons each Sunday.

Laura Schaeffer

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MINGUS MARKET AND LOCKER
East Toledo St.
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Ray Community Church

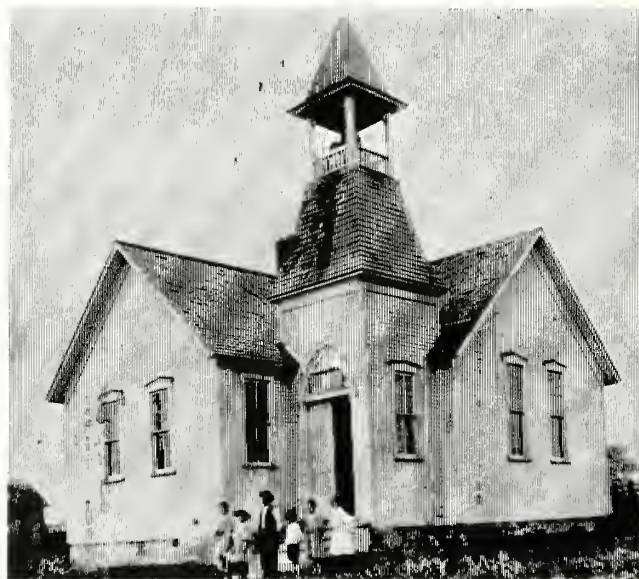
RAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

In 1835-36 several families located near Schenectady, New York came by way of the Erie Canal and after that by ox-wagon and located in the northeast corner of Fremont township. Their surnames were Duguid, McNaughton, Stewart and Lewis and they were related by marriage. They were descendants of the Scotch Covenanters, and for a time they gathered in the various homes for worship services, and a little later built a church with log walls and a thatched roof. In 1850 they erected a church on land which is a part of the Ray Cemetery, which had been donated by John and Helen Duguid. They worshipped in this church until 1876 when the present church on the western edge of Ray was built.

As a Reformed Presbyterian church they were served by five ministers, Rev. John French, Rev. R. C. Wylie, Rev. Thos. Walker, Rev. C. M. Smith, and Rev. D. O. Jack. After the pastorate of the latter, the church was reorganized as a Methodist Church, and so con-

tinued until 1951, when it was again reorganized, this time as the Ray Community Church, and it continues under that organization to the present time. For about five years, a layman, Mark Rader, ministered to the group, and in 1956 Rural Missionaries Mary Ethel Mengel and Wava Bueschlen arrived in Ray at the request of the membership of the community church. They were especially gifted with children and young people, but were much loved and very effective with the adults, also. A systematic home-visitation program was initiated, and every family in the community was made aware of the church program and its activities. In July, 1964, these two ladies left to take up other work, and were replaced by Village Missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Donald Kunkel, under the continued sponsorship of Village and Rural Missions, whose headquarters are in Kansas City. Present activities under their effective leadership include Jet Cadets, Youth Fellowship, Ladies Aid, Sunday School worship services, midweek prayer and Bible study.

by Rena Paul



Ray Methodist Church

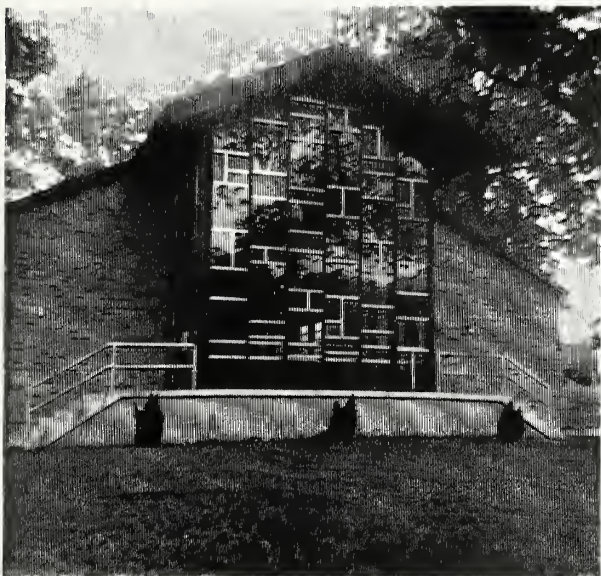
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15 South Public Square
ANGOLA, INDIANA

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE CO.

ANGOLA, INDIANA



St. Paul's Catholic Chapel

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Located on the north shore of Clear Lake, a quarter mile east of the Hazenhurst hotel, this beautiful Catholic Chapel has a seating capacity of 360. Services are held there on every Sunday, April thru November.

The church was started in July of 1941 in a small, red brick schoolhouse on the present site. The building was torn down in the year, 1949, and the present church erected. Improvements to the church followed thru the years, the latest being in 1965 when a remodeling and enlargement of the chapel took place.

When completely finished according to plans, St. Paul's is destined to be one of the most picturesque lake chapels in northern Indiana.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

The Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses is located south of Fremont on Highway 827, adjacent to the toll road. Here the personnel of Jehovah's Witnesses assemble for worship. On occasion as many as 125 people have here assembled for the worship of the true God Jehovah. Therefore it serves a worthy purpose in the local tri-state area.

This building was dedicated to Jehovah, the God of all people on March 7th and 8th in 1964. However the building was used as a center of worship after our moving from the Enslin building about October 1958. Prior to usage of the Enslin building, meetings were held in several homes in the local area, reaching back into the early 1940's. During that period a gathering together of people into a congregation was pursued.

The Congregation was organized about September 1946 with over 20 persons associated. Today there are over 60 active witnesses associated. All these are devoted to their free Bible educational work in the local area.



Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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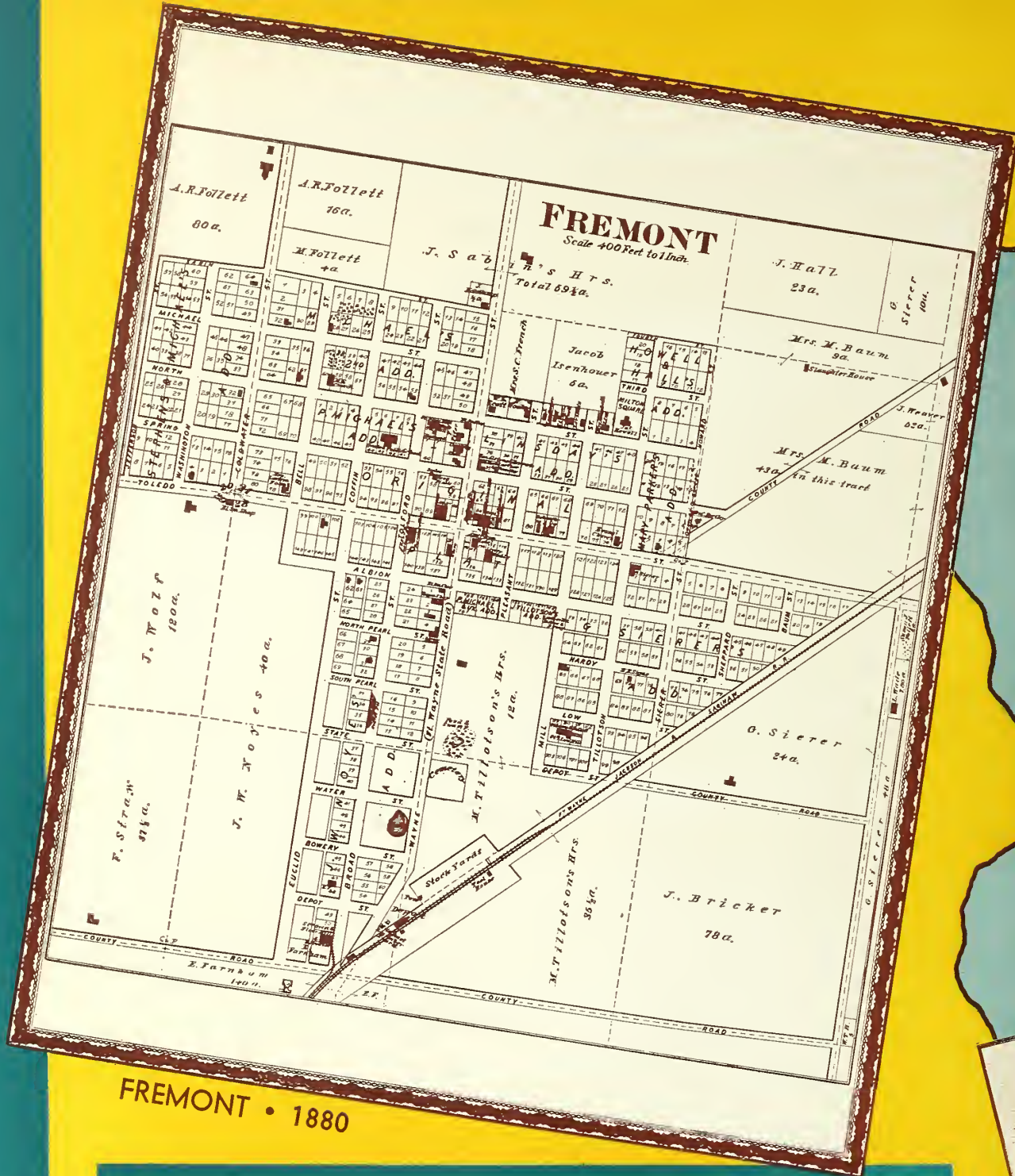
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The VISTULA ROAD

THE VISTULA ROAD

(Present Day State Road 120)

That long trek through the wilderness from Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh) to Green Bay, Wisconsin, was originally a natural Indian trail, later used extensively in the 1600's and 1700's by French missionaries and fur traders. For a short time in the early 1700's, Spain claimed this land and, in 1763, it fell under the influence of Great Britain. This oldest path of travel in the Old Northwest Territory was finally won by the Americans from both the British and Indians following a long bloody frontier war. Parts of this trail were first surveyed by French Jesuits and Vistula (Toledo) was an important trading post on the road. It gained its name from this busy village at the mouth of the Maumee River and situated on Lake Erie.